

**Minutes of the Community Development Committee
Public Meeting
May 23, 2011
First Floor Mtg. Rm., Town Hall**

Attendance:

Present: Members: Claude Tellier (CT), Mary Jane Laus (MJL), Jana McLure (JM), Nancy Gregg (NG), Guest Rob Crowner (representing the Planning Board) and Staff Nate Malloy, (NM)

Call to Order

9:08 a.m.

Announcements

NM reports that in the coming months the Select Board will review the Committee's revised charge in anticipation of appointing new members to the committee.

NM also reports that even though some federal budget cuts were made in CDBG funds, the State has conveyed that the Mini Entitlement communities will not be affected. We will keep our status until 2013.

Minutes

None.

New Business

i. Discuss 2012 CDBG process

NM presented the committee with a calendar showing the schedule of meetings and deadlines for the 2012 grant application process. The committee then discussed the importance of distributing a letter to Town boards and committees and other organizations to announce the start of the grant cycle. The letter would let local residents know that they can provide feedback and recommendations for the Community Development Strategy. It was suggested that the letter and announcement be made available to the public through Amherst Media (formerly ACTV).

ii. 2012 Community Development Strategy

The committee reviewed the organization of the strategy and how the sections relate to funding criteria and the Master Plan. The committee agreed to review the document in more depth at future meetings. A representative from the Planning Board attended to help with revising the 2012 Strategy; this is a new approach to ensure that the document includes current community priorities and goals from the Master Plan. The Planning Board also agreed to hold the Community Development Strategy public hearing to formalize the public input process and frame the hearing as a forum to hear about general community-wide priorities, not just activities eligible for CDBG funding.

Material Distributed at Meeting (Available upon request in the Planning Department)

Agenda

Revised committee charge (as of 3/30/2011)

Calendar for 2012 application process

2011 Community Development Strategy

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Next Meeting

TBD